

commencement of a general reduction by the large houses, with a view to limit the sales effected by small makers." Yes: the "small makers" were ever a thorn in the sides of the "great masters," and thus it now is that the great masters are to be a deadly thorn in the sides of the small and helpless, and that, as we lately said, "the weakest will go to the wall, and the longest purse prevail."

WIDE ESTIMATING.

THE following is a list of tenders received on Thursday last by the Directors of the London Conveyance Company, for new stabling for 200 horses, viz., twenty stables each for ten horses, and all exactly similar, to be built at the Westbourne Park, Paddington, under Mr. Pink, architect. The work consists of merely plain brickwork, &c., and the buildings only in part two stories high; and therefore one would imagine the value of the work could be arrived at with the greatest accuracy, especially as all the parties had the same quantities. Behold the result! A.

Jay and Co.	£6,333
Hughes and Co.	5,210
Hayward	5,199
G. Bird	5,129
T. Wilson	4,714
R. Thomas	4,075

Pray publish in your next paper the following tenders for repairs of two houses, Hanway-street, for Mr. Prowse:—

		For boarding and slating roof.
Potter	£149 10	£235
Roper and Son	97 10	25
Gilham	94 12	15
Smith and Son	79 10	14

SUBSCRIBER.

The highest and lowest tenders for general repair to the Westlean chapel and premises, City-road, Mr. Puckock, architect, were—

Puckering	£360
Higgs	309

What is to be done? B.

Miscellaneous.

THE SCULPTURE OF THE WEST END OF WELLS CATHEDRAL.—In the nine tiers of sculpture (says Professor Cockerell in a letter read at the last meeting of the Somerset Architectural Society) we have, first, nearest the ground, the foundation of all, the Prophets and Apostles;—"The glorious company of the Apostles praise Thee." In the second, the Angels;—"To Thee all Angels cry aloud." In the third, from the Creation to the Patriarcha, and the New Testament;—"The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge Thee." The fourth and fifth, the historical tiers (so deeply interesting), may be included in this "Holy Church." The sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth illustrate our belief, "That Thou shalt come to be our Judge," in the presence of the Apostles and the nine Angels, and the Resurrection subjects, full of pathos and expression. Over the door we are reminded—"When Thou takest upon Thee to deliver man, Thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb." See also the soffits of the arch, The Ten Commandments. The historical (a surprising series) will be of the deepest interest, and the learned will not fail to recognise, for example, on the spiritual side, Ina, the First Founder; Edward Elder; the five Archbishops translated before 1200, from Wells; Brithelmus especially, holding his Pallium, and yielding it to King Edgar. The Bishops of Sherborne and of Wells. On the temporal side Edgar, without his crown; Athelstan; Alfred in the centre, the sun of this galaxy; Etheldreda withdrawing the nuptial ring from her finger, &c., &c.; Edward Confessor; William the Conqueror; and Robert Courthouse, lifting up his cloak to show you his short legs. All these, as proofs of identity, together with the regular succession which the catalogue exhibits, and the many other evidences the observer cannot fail to acknowledge, will, I think, satisfy every reasonable person on the correctness of my interpretations—the subject of long and so many delightful visits and contemplations in Wells.

WHITECHAPEL SANITARY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Whitechapel Association for the Promotion of the Health, Comfort, and Cleanliness of the Working Classes, was held last week. The Rev. Mr. Champneys, rector of the parish, in the chair. The report dwelt at some length on the evils arising from an insufficient supply of water, which in Whitechapel would seem to be most defective and destructive. In the district, inhabited by 7,000 persons, there were 91 courts and streets badly paved. A great number of the houses were so dilapidated as to be wholly unfit for human residence, most of them being swamped in heavy rains. Several landlords, however, had agreed to co-operate with the society to remedy this evil. The report adverted to the frightful state of the lodging-houses in the district—in one of them 37 persons were crowded together in a space of 10 feet square—men, women, and children, all nearly naked. The smell was intolerable, and to add to it a large tub of ordure stood outside the door. The Board of Health state that 700 cubic feet of fresh air is absolutely necessary for life, while the inspectors of prisons allow 1,000 cubic feet for criminals; but these poor people had only 20 cubic feet each to breathe in. The subject, therefore, demanded the interference of Government. The report, which also suggested the appointment of a qualified parochial inspector, was unanimously adopted.

ROADS IN FRANCE AND ENGLAND.—The report of M. Darcy, divisional inspector of the Ponts et Chaussées, who has been to England to obtain information relative to the macadamised roads, has just been published. In this work we find the following particulars relative to the population, extent of the streets, &c., in Paris and London:—The total surface of London is 210,000,000 of square metres; its population, 1,924,000; number of houses, 260,000; extent of the streets, 1,226,000 metres; extent of the streets, not including the foot-pavement, 6,000,000 metres; extent of the sewers, 639,000 metres. The total surface of Paris is 34,379,016 square metres; population, 1,053,879; number of houses, 20,526; extent of the streets, 425,000 metres; surface of the streets, exclusive of the foot pavement, 3,600,000 square metres; length of the sewers, 135,000 metres; surface of the foot-pavement, 888,000 metres. Thus, in London every inhabitant corresponds to a surface of 100 metres; at Paris to 34 metres. In London the average of inhabitants for each house is 7½; at Paris, 34.

DOVER HARBOUR OF REFUGE.—With reference to the damage recently noticed by us, Lieut. Col. Yule, of the Royal Engineers, says, "In Volume VIII. of the *Professional Papers of the Corps of Royal Engineers*, I suggested and afterwards made experiments, to show that, for protection to such works while incomplete, if one spar can be so anchored, in imitation of reeds, as to resist the force of waves, so can hundreds, or any number: by means of numbers, as yet indefinite, still water will certainly be obtained. The late Admiral Sir Edward Owen informed me that, during a storm in one of the lakes in Canada, he found shelter to leeward of reeds. Supposing that the necessary number of spars were ascertained, they might be placed round a portion of the wall to be raised, and when that is completed, they can be taken up and anchored again at very little expense around the site of another portion of wall." It appears, however, that the damage in the present instance did not affect the wall, but was confined to the contractor's piles, cranes, and diving-bells.

STEAM TRAVELLING CRANES.—This problem, says the *Artizan*, has been satisfactorily solved by Messrs. McNICOLL and Vernon, of Liverpool. One steam crane has displaced two of the ordinary hand travelling cranes, which employed four men each. The following experiment will enable persons to form an accurate idea of its capabilities. Thirteen logs of timber, containing 1,050 cubic feet, were piled in a cess at one side of the yard. A plot of ground on the opposite side, 100 feet distant, was cleared. At one o'clock, precisely, the crane started, travelled 100 feet to where the timber was lying, hoisted a log, returned to the place whence it started, and deposited it on the ground in exactly two minutes. It immediately proceeded on a second journey, and at precisely four minutes ten seconds after one

o'clock it deposited the second log. The remaining logs were, one by one, conveyed over the distance, and in twenty-seven minutes thirty seconds the logs had been removed and piled in a cess at the opposite end of the yard. The average weight of the logs was 30 cwt., the total weight 19½ tons, allowing 54 cubic feet to the ton. The machine had travelled 2,600 feet, or within forty feet of half a mile, for half the distance carrying a load of 30 cwt., in addition to its own weight, besides having made 26 stoppages. During the whole of the operation only two persons were engaged,—the youth who directed the machine, and the man who fastened on the logs.

THE NELSON COLUMN.—Workmen have commenced preparations for fixing the third bas-relief illustrative of the battle of Cape St. Vincent, on the pedestal of the Nelson column. How much longer is the column to remain in its present unfinished condition?

PORTLAND HARBOUR AND BREAKWATER.—By the last Act of last session of Parliament, it is provided that out of a sum of 20,000£ paid for one of the harbour estates, 1,000£ shall be laid out towards constructing wells, pumps, and other works, for supply of water to the island of Portland. A further sum of 1,000£ invested for the Royal Portland Dispensary; 4,000£ towards the reduction or extinction of tolls on foot passengers at Portland Ferry-bridge; and the remainder applied towards schools, school-buildings, and teachers in the island, according to the direction of the Chief Commissioner of Woods and Forests.

LEICESTER LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.—The opening meeting of the present session took place on Monday in last week, Dr. Shaw, a new president, in the chair, when various gifts were presented, and amongst them, from the working classes of Leicester, a marble bust of Sir Robert Peel, purchased at a cost of a hundred guineas. Mr. Hollings stated that the archaeological section of the Society had uncovered five or six feet of a Roman pavement in a cherry orchard, which he hoped to see transferred to the Museum: the Society had voted 10£ towards its removal. Dr. Shaw then read a paper on "The Character of the Literary Taste of the Day," in which he deprecated diffusiveness of study and pursuit as destructive of everything great, original, or creative in thought; and however laudable it was to popularize knowledge, he was of opinion that the results were rather imposing than salutary.

LIVERPOOL ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY.—On the 16th inst. a meeting of this society was held at the Royal Institution, Mr. Charles Barber presiding. Several donations to the library were announced. Mr. Laker read a paper on "The Curve in Gothic Architecture."

BEDFORDSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—A general meeting of this society was held at the Bedford Library on Wednesday in last week, Col. W. B. Higgins in the chair. Some new members were elected. The Rev. W. Airy called attention to a proposal for the union of five societies for publication of proceedings, which the meeting adopted on his motion. A grant of 10£ towards the repair of Dunstable Priory Church was made. The report of the council was then read and adopted, after which the Rev. B. E. Bridges read a continuation of his paper, "On some Distinctive Features of Christian as contrasted with Classical Art," and the Rev. W. Airy one "On the Solemn League and Covenant," illustrated by the exhibition of a copy subscribed at Swineshead, at the time of the rebellion, and which he had himself found hidden under a beam in the roof of the rectory-house.

GLASS-MAKING: NEGLECT OF WORK.—A "gatherer" to one of the "blowers" at Messrs. Chance's establishment, at Handsworth, complained of short payment of wages, 11. 10s., for which he summoned the firm, who, in defence, urged that he had been properly fined for short work, according to agreement, a circumstance attributable to wilful neglect, in consequence of not having been promoted; after fifteen years' service, to be a "blower." The complaint was dismissed.

THE GREAT BULL FROM NINEVEH.—This valuable relic of antiquity has been safely deposited in the British Museum. It is in good preservation, stands nearly 12 feet in height, and weighs upwards of six tons.